

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 OIC-02 /134 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ITP/EWT:JBEMIS:JT

APPROVED BY EB/ITP/EWT:HKOPP

USDA - RMCDONNELL (PHONE)

COMMERCE - BMARSH

STR - ELAPP (PHONE)

COMMERCE - SPORTER (PHONE)

EUR/EE - RCHRISTENSEN

TREASURY - MCHAVES (DRAFT)

TREASURY - ERENDALL

----- 114950

R 130003Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL MTN GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 268670

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, GATT, RO

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF GATT AND MTN AT SECOND U.S.-ROMANIAN
COMMISSION

REF: (A) GENEVA 06613; (B) GENEVA 06420

SUMMARY: CONSISTENT WITH PETRESCU CONJECTURE (REF A),
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GOR PRESENTED PROPOSALS ON ROMANIAN TARIFF WORKING GROUP,

AND OTHER GATT MATTERS, AT SECOND SESSION OF U.S.-ROMANIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 3-4. GOR MADE PITCH FOR U.S. SUPPORT FOR ROMANIAN STATUS AS DEVELOPING NATION IN MTN, REQUESTED CONVENING OF WORKING PARTY IN DECEMBER TO EXAMINE EC QRS, AND REQUESTED U.S. AND GOR MEET TO DISCUSS CONCLUSION OF ROMANIAN TARIFF QUESTION. OFFICIAL MINUTES CONTAIN STATEMENT BACKING GOR PARTICIPATION AS DEVELOPING COUNTRY IN MTN (END SUMMARY).

1. ROMANIAN SIDE (FOTA) RAISED THREE DISTINCT POINTS WHEN TOPIC OF MTN WAS DISCUSSED:

-- GOR COUNTS ON U.S. TO SUPPORT ROMANIAN STATUS AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY IN THE MTN. FOTA ALSO EXPRESSED GOR DESIRE NOT TO BE CONSIDERED IN CATEGORY WITH OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES.

-- GOR REQUESTED THAT GATT WORKING PARTY CONVENE IN DECEMBER TO FORMALIZE "IN GREATER DETAIL" WEST EUROPEAN ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE QRS. FOTA NOTED THAT JANUARY 1, 1975 HAD PASSED AND EC QRS REMAIN. HE STATED GOR COUNTING UPON U.S. TO SUPPORT THEIR ELIMINATION.

-- GOR DESIRES THAT FORMULATION BE AGREED UPON TO RESOLVE THE QUESTION OF THE ROMANIAN TARIFF BUT BELIEVES NOW IS NOT THE MOMENT TO PRESENT FORMULATION TO THE WORKING PARTY. FOTA TWICE REQUESTED U.S. AND GOR MEET IN BILATERAL DISCUSSION TO REACH CONCLUSION ON THIS QUESTION.

U.S. SIDE RESPONDED THAT THESE MATTERS SHOULD BE TAKEN UP THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS (I.E. GENEVA).

2. AGREED MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION CONTAINED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THE MTN:

"THE TWO SIDES EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT THE CURRENT MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD

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CONTRIBUTE TO THE LOWERING OF TARIFFS AND THE REMOVAL OF QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS AND OTHER BARRIERS TO WORLD TRADE. THE U.S. SIDE EXPRESSED ITS SUPPORT FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF ROMANIA IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY. BOTH SIDES NOTED THEIR COMMON INTEREST IN SEEKING LIBERALIZATION OF WORLD TRADE IN INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE, AND

EXPRESSED INTEREST IN WORKING TOWARD THIS END
IN THE MTN."

3. SHOULD THE POINTS COVERED BY FOTA BE RAISED IN
GENEVA, WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE:

-- AS WAS NOTED BY AMBASSADOR DENT IN HIS
REMARKS TO THE OPENING PLENARY, ROMANIA
IS BOTH A DEVELOPING AND A STATE-TRADING
COUNTRY, AND WE WILL REGARD IT AS SUCH IN THE
MTN.

-- WE CAN SUPPORT A ROMANIAN INITIATIVE TO CONVENE
A WORKING PARTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAS 5
AND 3A OF THE PROTOCOL OF ACCESSION. AS STATED
IN PARA 3A, ONE PURPOSE OF THE WP WOULD BE
THE EXAMINATION OF QRS MAINTAINED BY THE EC
AND OTHERS WITH A VIEW TO THEIR ELIMINATION.

-- WHILE WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO RECEIVE
ROMANIAN REPLY TO PROPOSED TARIFF FORMULATION
(REF B), WE SHOULD NOT ENGAGE IN BILATERAL
DISCUSSIONS, AT LEAST UNTIL WE HAVE HAD
OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY ROMANIAN RESPONSE.
(FYI: WE WILL WANT TO CONSULT WITH EC AFTER
RECEIVING ROMANIAN RESPONSE.) KISSINGER

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